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CALIFORNIA PIMP INDICTED ON CHARGES OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING AND INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF MINORS FOR PROSTITUTION

PHOENIX -- A federal grand jury has returned a seven count indictment against Jeremiah Ulysses Crayton, age 27, of San Francisco, California. The indictment charges Crayton with two counts of Child Sex Trafficking, three counts of Interstate Transportation of a Minor for Prostitution, and two counts of Interstate Transportation of an Individual for Prostitution.

The indictment alleges that in August, 2004, Crayton took a juvenile female, who he knew was under the age of 18, from Phoenix to the San Francisco Bay area, where he caused her to work for him as a prostitute. The girl had the misfortune of being introduced to Crayton in July, 2004, when she got off at the wrong bus stop on her way to the Metro Center Mall in Phoenix. Crayton required the 14 year-old girl to give him all the money she earned while working as a prostitute on the streets of San Francisco. Crayton sent the girl back to Phoenix on a Greyhound bus when he learned police in Phoenix were looking for her as a runaway.

The Indictment further alleges that in September, 2005, Crayton took a 15 year-old female from Phoenix to the San Francisco Bay area, where he caused her to engage in prostitution. Despite learning in San Francisco that the girl was only 15 years old, Crayton drove her back to Phoenix, where he continued to have her work for him as a prostitute. Crayton also required the fifteen year old girl to give him all the money she earned working as a prostitute on the streets of both San Francisco and Phoenix.

A conviction for Child Sex Trafficking carries a maximum penalty of 40 years in prison, and a \$250,000 fine or both. A conviction for Interstate Transportation of a Minor for Prostitution carries a mandatory minimum penalty of 5 years, a maximum penalty of 30 years, and a \$250,000 fine or both. A conviction for Interstate Transportation of an Individual for Prostitution carries a maximum penalty of 10 years, and a \$250,000 fine or both. In determining an actual sentence, the District Court Judge will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the FBI in Phoenix and San Francisco and the Phoenix Police Department. The prosecution is being handled by Bill C. Solomon, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-0957-PHX RELEASE NUMBER: 2006-230(Crayton)

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